

support means for supporting the first object above the second object, the support means including first, second, and third protrusions protruding from the first object and first, second, and third pairs of protrusions protruding from the second object, wherein each protrusion of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object and each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second object have an end with a virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity, and wherein when the first and second objects are in an operational position so that the first object is above the second object, then the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object are in contact with the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions, respectively, of the second object.

2. (Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity of each of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object has a center and together the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object define vertices of a first triangle.

3. (Amended) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity of each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second object has a center such that midpoints of connecting lines between the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of each pair of protrusions of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions define vertices of a second triangle, the second triangle being substantially identical to the first triangle defined by the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object.

4. (Canceled).

B₆ ~~§ 2b c. >~~ 5. (Twice Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein each protrusion of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first object and each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second object are formed by metal balls, all of the metal balls being partially embedded into either the first object or the second object.

B₇ ~~§ 2b c. >~~ 6. (Amended) The assembly according to claim 5, wherein all of the metal balls have a virtually equal diameter.

B₈ ~~§ 2b c. >~~ 7. (Twice Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, further comprising fastening means for mutually fastening the first and second objects in the operational positions thereof.

B₉ ~~§ 2b c. >~~ 8. (Amended) The assembly according to claim 7, wherein the fastening means include any one of a screwed connection, a spring, and a magnet.

B₁₀ ~~§ 2b c. >~~ 9. (Amended) The first object provided with the first, second, and third protrusions and the second object provided with the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions, suitable for application in the assembly according to claim 1.

~~§ 2b c. >~~ 10. (Amended) A method for supporting a first object on a second object, the method comprising the steps of:

making first, second, and third indentations in the first object;

subsequently fitting first, second, and third metal balls each having a ball-shaped extremity into the first, second, and third indentations, respectively, in the first object, wherein a center of each of the first, second, and third metal balls of the first object defines a vertex of a first triangle;

making first, second, and third pairs of indentations in the second object;

subsequently fitting a ball-shaped extremity of each of the first, second, and third pairs of metal balls into the first, second, and third pairs of indentations, respectively, made

in the second object, wherein the ball-shaped extremity of each ball of the first, second, and third pairs of balls has a center and midpoints between connecting lines connecting the centers of each pair of balls of the first, second, and third pairs of balls define vertices of a second triangle which is virtually identical to the first triangle; and

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(cont'd) placing the ball-shaped extremity of each of the first, second, and third balls of the first object into supporting contact on the ball-shaped extremities of the first, second, and third pairs of balls, respectively, of the second object.

Sub C.1 1. (New) An assembly comprising:

a first plate supported above a second plate; and
supporting members configured to support the first plate above the second plate, the supporting members including first, second, and third protrusions protruding from the first plate and first, second, and third pairs of protrusions protruding from the second plate, wherein each protrusion of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate and each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate have an end with a virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity, and wherein when the first and second plates are in an operational position so that the first plate is above the second plate, then the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate are in contact with the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions, respectively, of the second plate.

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12. (New) The assembly according to claim 11, wherein the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity of each of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate has a center and together the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate define vertices of a first triangle.

13. (New) The assembly according to claim 12, wherein the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity of each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate has a center such that midpoints of connecting lines between the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of each pair of protrusions of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions define vertices of a second triangle, the second triangle being substantially identical to the first triangle defined by the centers of the virtually sphere-segment shaped extremities of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate.

14. (New) The assembly according to claim 11, wherein each protrusion of the first, second, and third protrusions of the first plate and each protrusion of the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate are formed by metal balls, all of the metal balls being partially embedded into either the first plate or the second plate.

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(contd)
15. (New) The assembly according to claim 14, wherein all of the metal balls have a virtually equal diameter.

16. (New) The assembly according to claim 11, further comprising fastening member configured to mutually fasten the first and second plates in the operational positions thereof.

17. (New) The assembly according to claim 16, wherein the fastening member include any one of a screwed connection, a spring, and a magnet.

18. (New) The first plate provided with the first, second, and third protrusions and the second plate provided with the first, second, and third pairs of protrusions, suitable for application in the assembly according to claim 1.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendment and the following discussion, is respectfully requested.